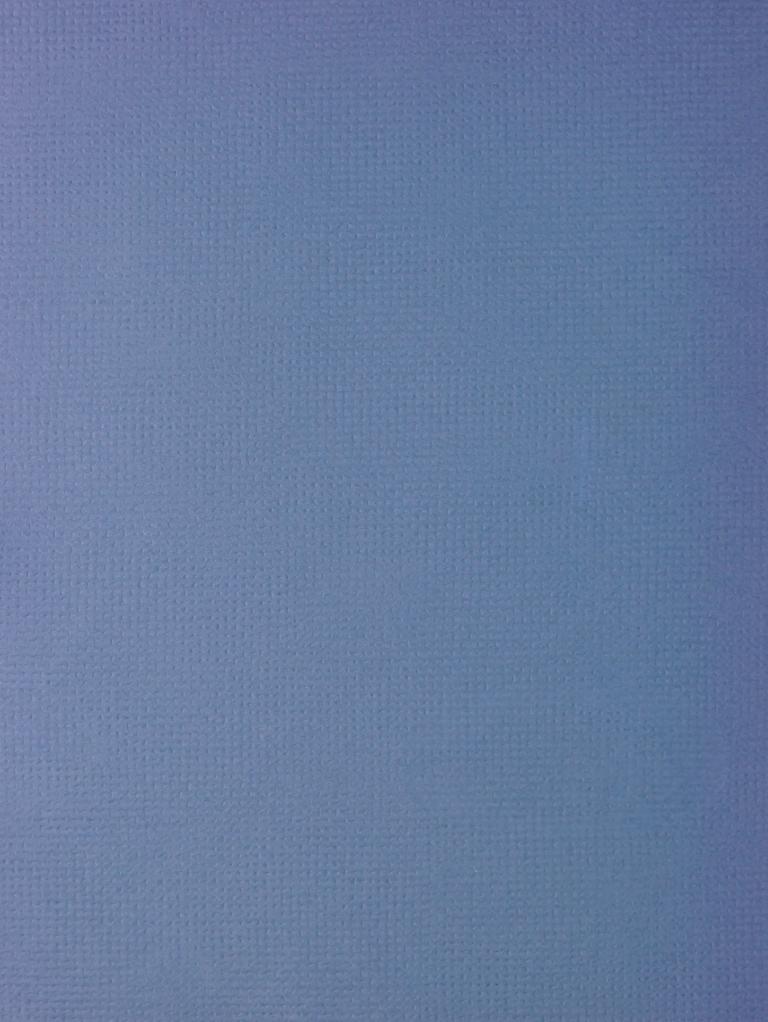


COCHRANE - DUNLOP LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT 1978



HIGHLIGHTS

1978	1977
Sales \$73,625,5	586 \$71,763,621
Income before extraordinary item \$ 639,3	319 \$ 952,398
Extraordinary item, profit on sale of properties \$ 537,2	242 —
Net income for the year \$ 1,176,5	561 \$ 952,398
Net income per share \$1	.27 \$1.03
Total assets \$30,426,1	163 \$28,434,095
Working capital \$ 9,033,	165 \$ 9,651,321
Shareholders' equity	
—total \$13,328,8	341 \$14,010,406
—per share \$14	.39 \$15.12

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

During 1978 the Canadian economy presented a series of contrasts. While the devaluation of the Canadian dollar had some effect in stimulating exports by making Canadian manufacturing more competitive, it meant, at the same time, an increase in the price of imported materials which contributed to the continuation of inflation. This, combined with a continuing deficit in Canada's cash flow, has contributed to an upward pressure on interest rates, which, again has dampened consumer confidence and restricted capital investment. In addition, attempts by most levels of Government to achieve a balanced budget position had the effect of reducing the volume of deficit financing stimulation and undoubtedly had some impact on the level of economic activity.

Those of our customers who could utilize the effects of devaluation to enter the export market have provided us with solid growth opportunities, however, other markets—the consumer market, residential construction and manufacturing for the domestic market—did not respond.

The 1978 results of the Corporation reflect the trends in the economy closely. While the programs established in 1978 have proceeded well, their effect has been offset by the impact of a below average growth pattern for Canada in 1978.

The consolidated financial statements of Cochrane-Dunlop Limited and its wholly-owned subsidiary companies for the year ended December 31, 1978, together with the report of the auditors, are submitted on behalf of your Board of Directors.

Sales

Sales for the fiscal year 1978 at \$73.6 million were 2.6% over sales in 1977. Overall sales volume gathered momentum during the first three quarters of the year and it was anticipated that the fourth quarter of the year would continue this trend and would be a factor in offsetting the effect of the slow first quarter in 1978. In the fall of 1978, however, we faced the impact of the strike of personnel of a major base metal mining customer in Sudbury, Ontario, and as Sudbury is one of our larger branches, the impact on sales had a considerable influence on overall sales results in the fourth quarter.

Highlighting individual operations areas it is a pleasure to report that the growth in sales through our newest branch in Calgary exceeded expectations, reflecting the rapidly-expanding economy in Alberta; rewarding progress is being made in industrial supply activity in the competitive Toronto area market; and our dealer supply volume developed well in a restrained consumer market.

The "Dominion Dollar" coupon program introduced in 1978 to the Dominion Hardware franchise appears to be gathering momentum and is being reflected in improved customer allegiance.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

DECEMBER 31, 1978

ASSETS	1978	1977
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 9,221	\$ 10,307
Accounts receivable	10,396,548	8,955,472
Merchandise inventory	15,516,735	14,855,888
Prepaid expenses	207,983	253,343
	26,130,487	24,075,010
Fixed assets, at cost:		
Buildings and equipment	5,414,106	5,501,653
Furniture and fixtures	2,137,950	2,152,684
Automotive equipment	341,526	349,214
	7,893,582	8,003,551
Less accumulated depreciation	4,906,865	4,715,061
	2,986,717	3,288,490
Land	1,308,959	1,070,595
	4,295,676	4,359,085
	\$30,426,163	\$28,434,095
LIADULTIES AND SUABELIOLDEDS FOLLITY		
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Bank indebtedness	\$11,326,830	\$ 8,852,441
Accounts payable and accrued charges	5,352,338	4,924,234
Income and other taxes payable	371,830	480,248
Dividends payable	46,324	166,766
	17,097,322	14,423,689
Shareholders' equity:		
Share capital (note 2)	533,700	533,700
Retained earnings	12,795,141	13,476,706
	13,328,841	14,010,406
On behalf of the Board:	\$30,426,163	\$28,434,095
F. COCHRANE, Director		
F. S. MARTIN, Director		

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1978

	1978	1977
Funds were obtained from:		
Operations— Net income before extraordinary item	\$ 639,319	\$ 952,398
Depreciation, an item not requiring a current outlay of funds	346,432	399,283
	985,751	1,351,681
Proceeds of sale of properties	634,415	-
	1,620,166	1,351,681
Funds were applied to:		
Expenditures on fixed assets	380,196	448,527
Dividends	1,852,952	305,737
Tax paid on undistributed income	5,174	_
	2,238,322	754,264
Increase (decrease) in working capital	(618,156)	597,417
Working capital, beginning of year	9,651,321	9,053,904
Working capital, end of year	\$ 9,033,165	\$ 9,651,321

(See accompanying notes)

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Shareholders of Cochrane-Dunlop Limited:

We have examined the consolidated balance sheet of Cochrane-Dunlop Limited as at December 31, 1978 and the consolidated statements of income, retained earnings and changes in financial position for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly the financial position of Cochrane-Dunlop Limited as at December 31, 1978 and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Toronto, Canada, March 31, 1979. CLARKSON, GORDON & CO. Chartered Accountants

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 1978

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of consolidation-

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Corporation and its subsidiaries, all of which are wholly-owned, and include the earnings of the subsidiaries since acquisition.

(b) Inventories-

Inventories are carried at the lower of cost, determined on a first-in first-out basis, and net realizable value.

(c) Depreciation-

The Corporation and its subsidiaries provide for depreciation on fixed assets on the reducing balance method. The rates of depreciation are:

																						nate
Buildings and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5% and 10%
Furniture and fixtures -	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20%
Automotive equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30%

2. Share Capital

The authorized capital of the Corporation consists of 1,500,000 common shares without par value of which 926,476 are issued as fully paid and non-assessable.

3. Lease commitments

The Corporation is committed to annual rental payments of approximately \$341,000 on leases expiring in the years 1979 to 1989.

4. Anti-inflation legislation

The Corporation and its subsidiaries in Canada were subject to, and believe they have complied with, controls on prices, profits, employee compensation and shareholder dividends under the Federal Government's Anti-Inflation Program.

5. Reclassification of 1977 figures

Amounts reported for 1977 have been reclassified to conform to the accounting presentation adopted in 1978.

10-YEAR STATISTICAL SUMMARY

(figures in thousands except ratios, shares, and amounts per share)

FOR THE YEAR	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969
Sales	\$73,626	\$71,764	\$67,089	\$62,883	\$58,025	\$45,115	\$39,294	\$41,815	\$41,516	\$35,751
Depreciation	346	399	333	290	249	179	188	202	202	-215
Interest on bank indebtedness	1,068	773	547	466	383	132	65	88	119	141
Income taxes	185	560	880	1,270	1,330	820	640	630	550	385
Netincome	639(b)	952	928	1,234	1,195	793	675	613(b	489	360(
% to sales	0.9%(b)	1.3%	1.4%	2.0%	2.1%	1.8%	1.7%	1.5%(b) 1.2%	1.0%(t
per common share (note a)	0.69(b)	1.03	1.00	1.35	1.38	.91	.77	.69(b	.55	.40(t
Dividends-total	1,853	306	306	336	200	128	128	128	128	128
Per share (note a)										
—Class A	_		-	.05	.20	.20	.20	.20	.20	.20
Common	2.00	.33	.33	.36	.22	.13	.13	.13	.13	.13
Expenditures on fixed assets	380	449	1,671	422	469	564	88	202	89	151
Increase (decrease) in working capital	(618)	597	(769)	708	742	260	626	503	473	365
AT YEAR END										
Working capital	9,033	9,651	9,054	9,823	9,115	8,373	8,114	7,488	6,985	6,512
Shareholders' equity	13,329	14,010	13,364	12,795	11,956	10,993	10,348	9,822	9,319	8,958
Shares outstanding (note c)										
—Class A	periods.	-	-	_	17,092	17,092	17,092	17,092	17,092	17,092
-Common	926,476	926,476	926,476	926,476	143,018	143,018	143,018	143,018	143,018	143,018

Notes:

1971-\$25,000 or \$0.03 per common share.

1969-\$68,904 or \$0.08 per common share.

a Based on average number of shares outstanding and adjusted for capital stock reorganization and split in 1975.

b Before adding Extraordinary Items of: 1978—\$537,242 or \$0.58 per common share.

c Capital stock was reorganized effective on June 11, 1975.

CORPORATE DIRECTORY

COCHRANE-DUNLOP LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE:

SUITE 450, NORTH TOWER

ROYAL BANK PLAZA

TORONTO, ONTARIO M5J 2J1

Directors

E. A. Bird, Toronto, Ontario

A. Gordon Cardy, Toronto, Ontario G. R. Chater, Toronto, Ontario F. Cochrane, Toronto, Ontario

T. S. Jones, Dryden, Ontario

F. S. Martin, Ottawa, Ontario

F. F. Todd, Oakville, Ontario

Wholly-Owned Subsidiary Companies

C-D Hardware Sales Limited

Quincailleries Cochrane-Dunlop Quebec Inc. Cochrane-Dunlop Hardware Manitoba Limited

Cochrane-Dunlop Hardware Saskatchewan Limited

Dominion Hardware Stores Limited Cochrane-Dunlop Alberta Limited

Cochrane-Dunlop, Inc. (Buffalo, N.Y., U.S.A.)

Wholesale Branches

ONTARIO

Dryden— 264 Government Street, Dryden. Elliot Lake— 2 Roddis Road, Elliot Lake.

Little Current— Vankoughnet Street, Little Current.

North Bay— 881 Jet Avenue, North Bay.

Sault Ste. Marie— 550 Second Line East, Sault Ste. Marie.

Sudbury— 122 Douglas Street W., Sudbury.
Thunder Bay— 425 Eleventh Avenue, Thunder Bay.

Toronto

(Dealer Supply)— 1385 Bloor Street West, Toronto.

Toronto

(Industrial Supply)-50 Woodbine Downs Boulevard, Rexdale.

Wawa- Government Road, Wawa.

QUEBEC

Val d'Or— 1337 Harricana Street, Val d'Or.

MANITOBA

Thompson— Station Road, Thompson.

SASKATCHEWAN

Esterhazy— 4 East Drive, Esterhazy.

Saskatoon— 2525 Wentz Avenue, Saskatoon.

ALBERTA

Calgary— 4215-58 Avenue S.E., Calgary.

Retail Branches

ONTARIO

Copper Cliff Lively Oakville Hamilton North Bay Sudbury Officers

F. Cochrane, President

R. L.T. Baillie, Vice-President Finance

Corporate Management

T. J. Dawson, Director Marketing

H. W. Ford, Director Planning and Procurement

T. D. Holmes, Director Personnel and Industrial

Relations

Counsel

Shibley, Righton & McCutcheon

Auditors

Clarkson, Gordon & Co.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The Canada Trust Company—Toronto

